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has not been utilized by Mr. Lea, and which, with the recent investigations of Dr. Bolton, will be far easier of access than formerly. The abundant matter in Blair and Robertson's *The Philippine Islands, 1493-1898*, touching the tribunal in Mexico, and especially its subordinate branch in the Philippines, has, however, been neglected. In Vol. v of the series, pp. 256-273, are given the instructions issued to the first commissary of the Philippines in 1583. Vols. xxv and xxvi contain much valuable information on the tangled relations of Gov. Corcuera with the episcopacy, religious orders and Inquisition, a perusal of which might have led Mr. Lea to modify some of his conclusions. Vol. xxxvi is rich in material *in re* the illegal and high-handed arrest of Gov. Salcedo by Inquisitor Paternina. On the whole, the Philippines deserved more space than has been given them. In that section (p. 299), the date of Bishop Salazar's arrival should be 1581. The first commissary in the Philippines seems to have been Diego Muñoz, O. S. A., and *not* Francisco Manrique (p. 300). Throughout the work, a closer chronological arrangement at times might have conduced to greater clearness. In the European part, one is brought into touch with all the state and ecclesiastical policies and machinations of the day. In the American chapters is adequately presented for the first time the awful consequences of the establishment in the western world of the Holy Office. These chapters, to a much greater extent than the preceding ones, unfold a tale of graft, immorality and corruption that is well-nigh incredible. In this hemisphere, so far from the Suprema, control or even direction in the slightest affairs was almost impossible, and the Inquisition became the instrument for the satisfaction of private aims, revenge and greed. It weakened and deadened all private and public life, and not even the most sacred relations were safe from its impious touch. One lays aside this book with mingled feelings of depression, pity and exultation—of depression and pity for the sufferings entailed and the blindness of the world; of exultation for the destruction through its own weight of the vast incubus that was sucking out the best of the lands on which it had fastened itself. State-ruled religions, or religion-ruled states alike are apt to prove evil in consequences.

JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.

Madison, Wis.

Metchnikoff, Élie. *The Prolongation of Life.* Translated by P. Chalmers Mitchell. Pp. xx, 343. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1908.

Old age is not brought on by a wearing out of the tissues. Many animals live for long periods. Others, of apparently equal strength, are short-lived.

Men desire to live long lives and it is right that their lives should be long. Many great things have been done by men who have passed the age of threescore and ten years. Scientific developments which will solve this problem of senility, thus providing a longer life for the race, will be of inestimable value to humanity. At present the knowledge of the author

leads him to state that pure cultures of lactic microbes taken into the system will successfully destroy the intestinal flora which prove so destructive through the putrefaction developed by them.

The book is a splendidly clear analysis of the subject and presents the views of the author in a definite way, gratifying to those who are accustomed to the hopeless labyrinths of argument and reasoning in the average scientific book. The work is suggestive and should it lead, as it doubtless will, to a careful study and solution of the problems arising out of senility, it will mark an epoch in the control by man of environing conditions. To the economist, no problem to-day is more real than the problem of maintaining efficiency and reducing the death rate of those who would otherwise be rendering great service to the community. The author's biological interpretation leads to at least one very possible remedy.

SCOTT NEARING.

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O'Shea, M. V. *Linguistic Development and Education.* Pp. xviii, 347.

Price, \$1.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1907.

Several concrete subjects, studied inductively, furnish the major portion of the material contained in this book. The method followed has been that of observing "a child from the beginning of expressive activity on until he acquired a mastery of his mother tongue in its vocal and auditory forms," and endeavoring "to determine what psychological principles were illustrated in this development." Suitable comparisons with the work of others along this line are included.

The book is divided into two parts, the first dealing with "Non-reflective," the second with "Reflective processes in linguistic development." Beginning with experiences of discomfort, the subsequent stages of mental development are carefully traced—particularization, reaction to environment, spontaneous vocal activity, comprehension of the parts of speech and of proper word order, as well as of inflection.

Part II, which studies the child in his incipient school life, besides being analytic, is in a large measure didactic in purpose, and throws much light on our educational psychology. The teaching of reading, the use of definition and methods of learning spelling are discussed. The chapter on "Development of efficiency in oral expression" is of special interest and value. It examines the various methods of training in efficiency, notes their advantages and defects, and makes pertinent suggestions for further improvement. Of almost equal interest is the discussion of the "acquisition of a foreign tongue." The lessons which Europe has for us in this respect, although already known to us, are emphasized here, and their commendation by this able author will, it is hoped, aid in the revision of our system of instruction.

With the exception of several chapters, including those enumerated, the book will be read chiefly by specialists. The style, however, is forceful and agreeably simple. The reader's task in the study of the book is further